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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 2 July 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, allow me to thank you for your continued support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, and for your participation in the Second Advisory Board meeting that took place in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 3 June 2012. Your contribution and presence were invaluable to the Centre. I would also like to express our gratitude for your opening statement given in Jeddah.

Please find attached a copy of the Joint Summary document that was issued by His Royal Highness Prince Saud AlFaisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia (see annex). I would like to request that the present letter and its annex be issued as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Abdallah Y. **Al-Mouallimi**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 2 July 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic and English]

Second meeting of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre Advisory Board

Joint Summary by His Royal Highness Prince Saud AlFaisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia and His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations (Jeddah: 13 Rajab 1433 — 3 June 2012)

The Second Advisory Board meeting of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) was convened today, 13 Rajab 1433 of Hijrah, 3 June 2012, in the city of Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and was chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Saud AlFaisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, and attended by the United Nations Secretary-General, His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, and the members of the Advisory Board.

The attendees expressed their appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz, for the statement delivered on his behalf that commenced the proceedings of the meeting.

They also acknowledge his efforts in establishing the UNCCT under the umbrella of the United Nations, which was conceived in 2005 as part of the Riyadh Counter-Terrorism International Conference. That idea became a reality with the signing of the agreement on 19 September 2011 in New York, that established the Centre. This also signals the commitment the Kingdom made on the national and international levels in the field of counter-terrorism, and also the $10 million contribution to fund the Centre for the first three years, a matter that stems from the Kingdom's faith in the importance of international cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism.

Based on the inputs received from the Advisory Board members during and after their first meeting in New York on 2 April 2012, the Secretary-General announced the following initial strategic priorities for the Centre: development of national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, support for integrated capacity-building assistance, countering the financing of terrorism, promoting dialogue and understanding between communities, protecting human rights while countering terrorism and the need to promote and protect rights of victims of terrorism.

The Advisory Board highlighted the danger posed by the phenomenon of terrorism, and that it is one of the most significant challenges that the international community faces. It also stressed that terrorism is a scourge that knows neither borders nor faith, and that threatens the peace and security of the international community as a whole.

It was underscored that the threat of terrorism should be countered through comprehensive national and regional strategies, keeping in mind Member States' national and regional priorities and international obligations. These strategies could be developed in conformity with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism

Strategy (General Assembly resolution 60/288), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly by consensus in September 2006.

The Advisory Board members discussed several issues, including enhancing international cooperation, building in-depth knowledge of the Strategy among key stakeholders, sharing of counter-terrorism best practices, exchanging expertise and developing effective training programmes. The members reiterated the need to respect human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism. It was also stated that the UNCCT can play an important role in the effective implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

In conclusion, the participants expressed their gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting the meeting.